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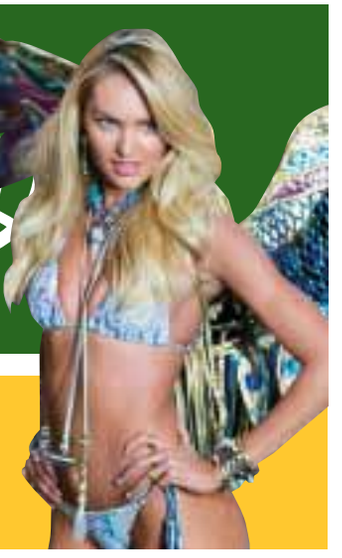

THE WORKOUT ANGELS SWEAR BY

The trainer who whips the models into shape reveals all. 20

Adventure dating is about to take over. 19

Knicks' Porzingis ready for next challenge. 22

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SCHOOLED

Parents and teachers unhappy at mayor's decision to open public schools; attendance was at 74 percent. 4

HANNAH MATTIX

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CONGRESSIONAL HEARING

1 A federal judge gave Martin Shkreli, a former pharmaceuticals executive facing securities fraud charges, permission to appear at a Congressional hearing on drug pricing. U.S. District Judge Kiyo Matsumoto in Brooklyn, New York modified Shkreli's bail conditions so that he may appear by subpoena before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Shkreli has said he plans to invoke his right against self-incrimination if he attends. REUTERS

PROFESSOR CHARGED

2 A University of Missouri communications professor who called for "some muscle" to get a student journalist to back off during campus protests in November was charged on Monday with misdemeanor assault, prosecutors said. The student journalist, whose video of the incident during anti-racism protests went viral, had filed a complaint against Melissa Click with university police. Click, an assistant professor in the university's communication department, and university officials could not be reached for comment. REUTERS

ADIDAS ENDS IAAF DEAL

3 Adidas is to end its sponsorship deal with the International Association of Athletics Federations almost four years early because of the scandal surrounding the sport, the BBC reported. The BBC said Adidas, whose 11-year deal made it the biggest sponsor of athletics' governing body, decided against continuing with the contract as a direct result of the doping and corruption allegations that emerged. REUTERS

7 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

TRAVEL STILL SLOW

7 A traveler sits on the ground of Penn Station while waiting for an Amtrak train on Monday in New York City.

ALL PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

BRONX MACHETE ATTACK

4 Angel Feliz, 26, was arrested for the murder of a Bronx woman he reportedly attacked with a machete — cutting off one of her hands, according to reports. On Sunday, Jan. 24 at about 4:08 p.m., police responded to a call of a woman stabbed inside 383 141st Street. When they arrived, cops found 59-year-old Carmen Torres-Gonzalez with numerous lacerations to her body, authorities said. ANGY ALTAMIRANO

GOOGLE MAPS

ZIKA ACROSS AMERICAS

5 The mosquito-borne Zika virus, which has been linked to brain damage in thousands of babies in Brazil, is likely to spread to all countries in the Americas except for Canada and Chile, the World Health Organization said. Zika has not yet been reported in the continental United States, although a woman who fell ill with the virus in Brazil later gave birth to a brain-damaged baby in Hawaii. Brazil's Health Ministry said in November that Zika was linked to a fetal deformation known as microcephaly, in which infants are born with smaller-than-usual brains. REUTERS

SUBWAY SLASHING

6 A subway rider had her face slashed in a random attack aboard a downtown 6 train. At approximately 7:30 a.m. on Monday, a 71-year-old woman was attacked by a stranger sitting across from her on a 6 train as it approached the Bleecker Street station, ABC reported. JASON NUCKOLLS

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QHP15_208

Teachers, parents outraged schools were open Monday

Public school attendance was at 74 percent on Monday.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

Parents pick up their children as school lets out in Queens. HANNAH MATTIX

The city's decision to keep schools open on Monday was met with anger by parents and teachers who believed safety should have been taken into account before a decision was made.

According to Mayor Bill de Blasio, the city decided to open schools because, based on how highways and major streets looked after snow removal, it was believed that conditions were safe enough.

He also added that the city owed it to the students not to keep them out of school and to also help parents who would need to have their children somewhere while they worked.

"I'm convinced it was the right one," de Blasio said about the decision.

All schools and after-school activities were expected to go on a regular schedule on Monday, but field trips using school buses were cancelled.

Based on data from the DOE, 74.18 percent of students attended school on Monday — a number typical for days immediately following massive storms. On average, attendance on most days is around 90 to 91 percent.

The Department of Education was working with bus companies and the Sanitation Department to ensure students were transported safely to and from school.

However, for teachers and parents, the decision was completely off and many said the commute to the schools was "chaotic" and "horrible."

Michelle Rojas, a mother of two and school response team coordinator for The Child Center of NY, said she decided to keep her children home because the conditions outside were just too dangerous.

"I feel that it is not safe at all," she said. "The streets by the schools are not clean, they're not safe. The sidewalks are full of ice and the buses were so late."

Soo Lee, a teacher at Queens Centers for Progress — Apple Tree Preschool, said her commute from New Hyde Park was a mess and she couldn't understand how people were making it to work.

"It was chaotic," said Soo Lee. "It was horrible. The streets are extremely narrow because of the snow and there is no parking."

Only three out of 12 of her students came to school — making her class the one with the fewest in attendance — and she had to combine classes with another teacher who also had low attendance.

Lee also said that it was difficult for buses to drop off students, especially those in wheelchairs, because most of the street had snow piled up.

> *"They should have just closed and took this day off so they can clean up as much as possible."*
>
> Lee

"They should have just closed and took this day off so they can clean up as much as possible," Lee said.

For Elizabeth Gutierrez, traveling from her home in Jackson Heights to Thomas Edison High School in Jamaica was a problem and she witnessed many students struggling on their way to class.

"The commute was awful. I saw several kids fall while attempting to walk through the mountains of snow on every corner," Elizabeth Gutierrez said. "Especially where I live in Jackson Heights, they barely cleaned, so it was a nightmare."

She added that in her second-period class, 20 out of 34 students were absent, while in her third-period class, 12 students didn't come in.

For another Queens teacher, who asked to not be named, she wished the DOE would have at least delayed opening the schools on Monday to allow teachers — especially those who commute from Long Island — to make their way to school.

She said 14 teachers were absent in her school.

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New York City 'not entirely normal' yet

The Department of Sanitation will focus its efforts Monday on clearing small streets in Queens.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

The Big Apple was off to a slow, yet good start on Monday but there was still more to be done before things will be completely back to normal.

In an update on the city's response to this weekend's storm — which dropped over 2 feet of snow on New York City — Mayor Bill de Blasio thanked sanitation workers and first responders for protecting New Yorkers through and after the storm.

He added that although things were not completely back to normal in the city, every agency involved did "a great job all around" despite some areas facing bigger difficulties than others.

"Things are not entirely normal [Monday] but a lot of the city is operating well," de Blasio said. "The storm presented a host of challenges, but each agency I believe handled it great."

With the Department of Sanitation (DSNY) having plowed up to 97 percent of all primary and secondary streets at least once, DSNY Commissioner Kathryn Garcia said that the agency would focus its primary efforts on Queens on Monday.

Residents of the "World's Borough" voiced their outrage over the weekend, turning to social media to post photos of their streets still covered in snow, hours after the storm.

De Blasio visited the borough twice in the past two days and said that he had seen improvements after his first visit but more still had to be done in some neighborhoods.

97%
OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY STREETS WERE PLOWED AT LEAST ONCE.

"I saw some improvements but we got to finish this job [Monday]," de Blasio said. "No one is saying 'mission accomplished' around here."

Out of a total of 2,000 DSNY pieces currently out in the city, the agency has more than 900 being used in Queens, which in some areas saw more than 30 inches of snow.

DSNY has also diverted front-end loaders from other boroughs and hired private contractors to assist in digging, piling, and hauling snow away to melters.

The agency is also looking at hiring any snow laborers to help with the continued cleanup.

And although things are beginning to improve for the city, de Blasio continued to urge New Yorkers to be careful when walking on the streets or sidewalks, check in on neighbors and do not use their cars unless absolutely necessary.

"Don't think this is business as usual because it's not business as usual," de Blasio said. "If you don't need your car, just leave it where it is."

The mayor asked for people to just let nature help with the snow, let it melt and do not throw any snow back on the streets because it causes more issues for DSNY vehicles.

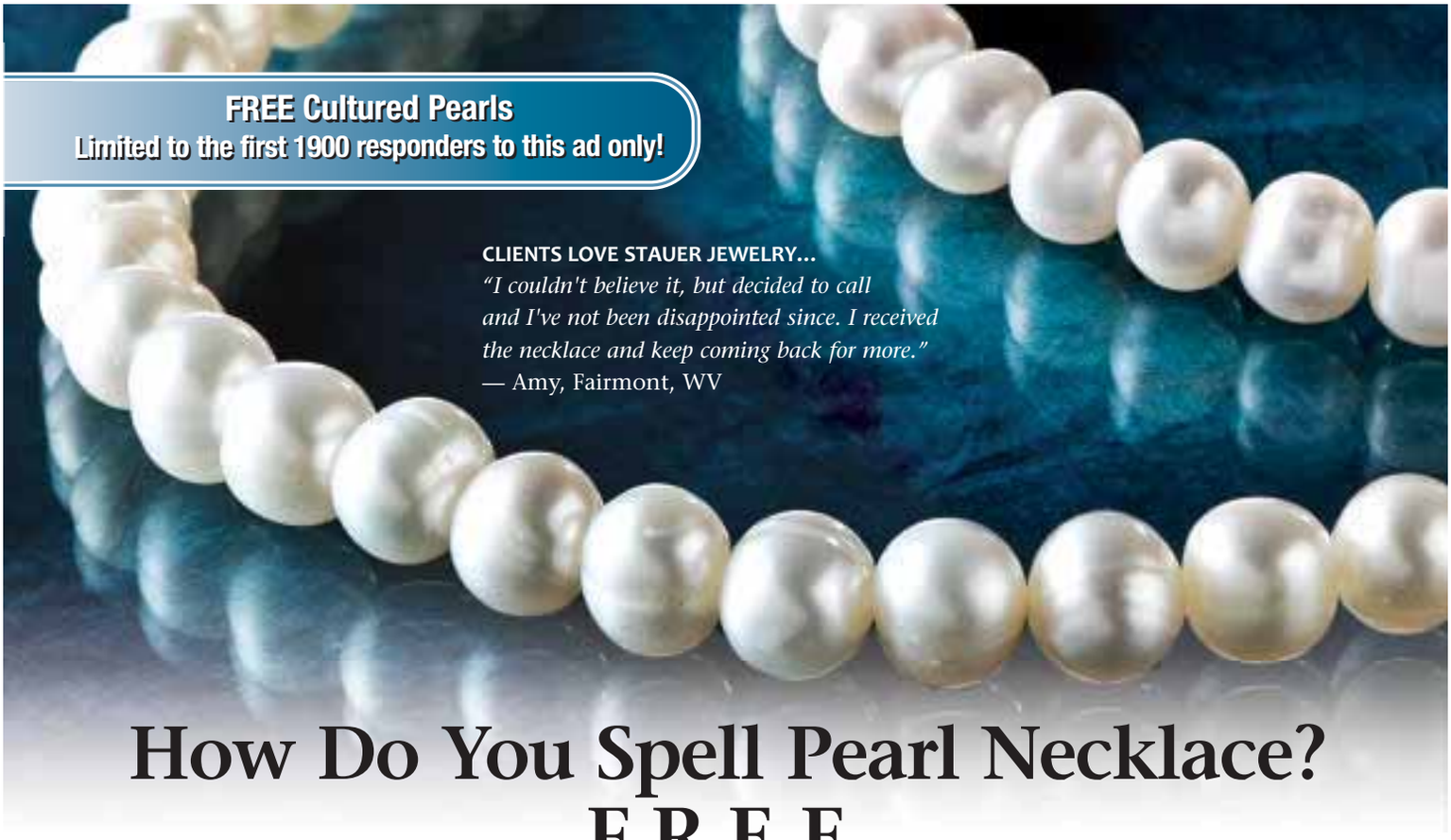
When clearing sidewalks, 3 to 4 feet should be cleared so no fines get issued to homeowners or business owners, and whoever is not healthy should leave the shoveling to others.

Since the storm, a total of five people have died in the city due to snow shoveling, according to authorities.

De Blasio added that he was aware that many New Yorkers have been inconvenienced due to the storm, but he believed the overall response by the city was strong. Once all snow removal is complete, the city will also look into what was done during the storm and assess any adjustments that need to be made.

Snow is everywhere. GETTY IMAGES

"No one is saying 'mission accomplished' around here."
de Blasio



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Bronx man pleads guilty to fatal choking

Charles Wright choked the victim to death, cut off her fingertips and threw her body off a pier in Brooklyn.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

A Bronx man has pleaded guilty to choking a Brooklyn woman to death, disposing of her body and afterward using the victim's credit cards to make purchases.

Charles Wright, 35, copped to second-degree murder and two counts of fourth-degree grand larceny.

According to prosecutors, on July 25, 2014, Wright going into an argument with 32-year-old Shaniqua Davis inside an apartment at 775 Blake Avenue in Brooklyn.

During this time he strangled Davis, used a knife to cut off her fingertips, tied her hands and feet, stuffed her body inside a large brown laundry bag, put her in the back of her car and drove her to the Canarsie Pier, Brooklyn District Attorney Ken Thompson said.

Once at the pier, Wright threw Davis' body into the water. The body was later found on a tidal island in Jamaica Bay on Aug. 4, 2014.

After disposing of the body, Wright used the victim's ATM card to withdraw $141.50 from a grocery store across the street from where she lived, authorities said. He then also used her credit card to make purchases at a gas station, a Family Dollar store; and at a Wendy's and Burger King.

"By sadistically killing, cutting up and dumping the victim's body in the water, this defendant showed absolutely no mercy toward the victim. With his guilty plea, we will now show no mercy toward him and seek a long prison sentence for this ruthless and cold-blooded killer," Thompson said.

Wright's 39-year-old girlfriend Tamanika Evens — who helped him dispose of the body — pleaded guilty to first-degree hindering prosecution and fourth-degree grand larceny on Dec. 3, 2015, and is expected to be sentenced to two to six years in prison.

Wright will be sentenced on Feb. 10 and faces 18 years to life in prison.

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Cops rescue kitten from under car wheel in Brooklyn

The 2-month-old feline was unharmed and the car owner plans to adopt her. PROVIDED

It was a purr-fect rescue with a happy ending.

On Monday at about 12:35 p.m. Police Officers Christopher Rinelli and Kenia Marte — both assigned to the NYPD Strategic Response Group — were flagged down by a motorist at the intersection of Ocean Parkway and Sherman Street in Brooklyn.

Geraldine Cassone then told the officers that a black kitten had ran into the street, causing traffic to stop, and after exiting her car she saw the kitten run up into the wheel well of her car, according to police.

Both officers made sure the scene was safe and began looking for the kitten. When they were not able to reach the feline — who by that time had climbed up into the undercarriage of the car — they used a jack to lift the car and removed the wheel to find the kitten.

Officer Rinelli was able to reach for the kitten and carefully place her into a towel, police said. And although she was wet and cold, the kitten seemed to be unharmed.

Cassone decided to take home the 2-month-old kitten — who has yet to be named — and said she intends to adopt it. ANGY ALTAMIRANO

What a steal. AIRBNB

BRIEF

Brooklyn igloo listed on Airbnb for $200 per night

Some people are always looking for a way to make an extra buck, or possibly a great joke. Sometimes though, as in the case of the Greenpoint, Brooklyn Igloo listed on Airbnb, they are one in the same.

In the wake of the second-largest snowstorm in New York City history, a Brooklyn resident reportedly made an igloo in his backyard and then listed the space for $200 per night on the vacation home rental site.

"Dripping with ingenuity and alt-lifestyle aura lays this Snowpocalypse's most desirable getaway," the post advertised. "Built completely by hand all natural [sic] Come experience this chic dome-style bungalow with Bae."

The igloo featured air conditioning, wireless Internet

and allowed smoking, according to the post. Sadly, it had no heating.

Much like any hopes you had of staying in this igloo, the listing's lifespan was short; it was removed soon after it was posted to the site. MATTHEW LEE

Cop reckless in shooting: Prosecutor

As Akai Gurley bled to death in a New York stairwell, the police officer who fired the fatal bullet was upstairs arguing with his partner about whether to call in the incident, prosecutors said at the start of the officer's trial on Monday.

NYPD Officer Peter Liang is charged with manslaughter and other crimes in the Nov. 20, 2014, shooting inside a Brooklyn public housing project.

"Akai Gurley is dead today because he crossed paths with Peter Liang," Brooklyn Assistant District Attorney Marc Fliedner told jurors in his opening statement.

> *"Akai Gurley is dead today because he crossed paths with Peter Liang."*
> Fliedner

Defense lawyer Rae Koshetz said Liang fired his gun accidentally and that he had no idea the bullet had ricocheted off a wall into Gurley's chest in the "pitch-black" stairwell.

"This was a million-to-one possibility," she said.

The death of the 28-year-old Gurley, an unarmed black man, added to nationwide tensions over police use of force against minorities. Liang, 28, is Chinese-American.

Koshetz told jurors the case was "not a referendum on policing in the United States." The 12-member jury is almost entirely white.

Liang drew his weapon as he and his partner, Shaun Landau, entered the stairwell on patrol late at night. Gurley and a friend were walking one floor below on their way out of the building.

Prosecutors have not accused Liang of intending to shoot anyone. But they said he acted recklessly in unholstering his weapon and then failing to check whether the bullet hit anyone because he was too worried about losing his job.

Liang also did not administer first aid, prosecutors said.

But Koshetz said Liang was in a "state of shock" following the shooting, eventually requiring his own ambulance, and was in no condition to help anyone. Drawing his gun inside a dark, "crime-ridden" housing project was not against department rules, she said.

The trial's first witness, building resident Melissa Lopez, described relaying instructions from a dispatcher to Gurley's friend, who was desperately trying to revive him.

"He's not breathing!" the friend, Melissa Butler, screamed during a recording of the 911 tape played in court. REUTERS

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Riverdale best for first-time buyers

Home, sweet home FILE PHOTO

For the second year in a row, Riverdale in the Bronx has the largest inventory of units that would fit well with first-time buyers, but several other neighborhoods in all the boroughs offer inexpensive, commuter-friendly options.

Based on a calculation tying together presumptive income and mortgage rates, StreetEasy has compiled a list of neighborhoods with housing options for first-time buyers.

The report outlines the availability of housing priced below $524,050, the amount a typical first-time buyer can afford.

With this price cap, there were 13,518 units available citywide, with the greatest share located in Brooklyn, StreetEasy stated.

Following the conventional wisdom that housing availability increases with distance from Midtown Manhattan, many of the best neighborhoods for first-time buyers, including Riverdale in the Bronx, Forest Hills in Queens, and Sheepshead Bay in Brooklyn, were all train-riding distance from the city.

Alan Lightfeldt, the author of StreetEasy's report, encourages buyers to also search for co-op units as well as condo units because including co-ops increases available listings by a factor of six. In Manhattan, there were 35 neighborhoods with affordable co-op inventory but only 10 with condo inventory.

StreetEasy will be discussing buying a first home in New York on Feb. 6 at 9:30 a.m. at The New School. JASON NUCKOLLS

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— Mark Jackson,
Epoch Times Entertainment Critic

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‘El Bloombito’ is back on Twitter

The account’s owner said she started the account when she was housebound with her infant daughter.

Miguel Bloombito (@ElBloombito), a Twitter account launched in 2011 to lampoon then-Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s tenuous grasp of the Spanish language, has returned amid talk that Bloomberg might enter the 2016 presidential race.

With more than 71,000 followers, the Twitter account pokes fun at Bloomberg’s attempts at speaking Spanish during press conferences. The tweets blend mangled Spanish words with English.

“If electedo presidente, yo will fixo el problemo de los immigratioño by gentrifyingo el border so los migrantos no can affordo to live aqui,” tweeted Miguel Bloombito (@ElBloombito) on Saturday, referencing the immigration debate that has been a key issue in the runup to the presidential election.

Bloomberg FILE PHOTO

“Asko not what tu countryo can que do para tu, asko what tu countryo can do para me. #FeelTheBerg,” the account tweeted on Sunday. The hashtag #FeelTheBerg mimicks #FeelTheBern, a hashtag used by supporters of Democratic candidate Bernie Sanders.

The account’s owner, Rachel Figueroa (@Jewyorican), said she started the account in August, 2011, during Hurricane Irene, when she was housebound with her infant daughter.

“It started as a little inside joke between my friends on Twitter,” said Figueroa, who is Puerto Rican and called the account “a shared cultural joke” among neighbors in the Inwood neighborhood of Manhattan.

In the past, the account has taken aim at Bloomberg’s policies and the personal wealth of the billionaire media company founder.

A representative for Bloomberg Media declined to comment. REUTERS

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The biggest 'Star Trek' party of 2016 will be in New York City

For its newest journey, instead of going where no man has gone before, "Star Trek" is returning to its home base.

New York City will host a three-day "completely unique fan event" to celebrate 50 years of "Star Trek" called Star Trek: Mission New York. The event, which will run Sept. 2-4 at the Javits Center, brings the franchise back to the city where the modern convention was born — the Statler Hotel (now the Hotel Pennsylvania) held the first-ever "Star Trek" fan event in 1972.

"'Star Trek' fans set the gold standard of what these type of experiential events are all about," said Lance Fensterman, global senior vice president of ReedPOP in a statement. "Star Trek: Mission New York will be a completely unique fan event unlike anything seen before, giving them the chance to go beyond panels and autograph signings, and immerse themselves in the Star Trek universe."

"Star Trek" fans GETTY IMAGES

The event will include panels, screenings and celebrity guests, as well as interactive exhibits, according to organizers CBS, which is producing a new online television series in the "Star Trek" universe set to premiere in 2017, and ReedPOP, which also stages New York City Comic Con and Star Wars Celebration.

This year was already set to be a big one for the franchise. It's the 50th anniversary of the original series' debut on NBC on Sept. 8, 1966.

In July, the third movie in the rebooted universe that began with JJ Abrams' "Star Trek" in 2009 will be released.

And CBS' new series will mark the franchise's return to a television-style format since "Enterprise" ended in 2005. EVA KIS

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McDonald's all-day breakfast is a big hit, investors lovin' it

The world's biggest restaurant chain's shares rose 3 percent to a record-high of $121.90 on Monday.

A McDonald's Egg McMuffin and hash browns GETTY IMAGES

McDonald's Corp. reported better-than-expected quarterly same-restaurant sales as the launch of all-day breakfasts proved to be a hit with diners in the United States and demand continued to recover in China.

McDonald's introduced all-day breakfasts in October in the United States, allowing customers to tuck into its popular Egg McMuffins and Hash Browns any time of the day.

The move was aimed at countering increasing competition from chains such as Wendy's, Starbucks and Burger King, which have been doubling down on their breakfast offerings.

"All-day breakfast positions us to regain market share we had given up in recent years."
Chief Executive Steve Easterbrook

Up to the third quarter of 2015, McDonald's U.S. sales had fallen for two years after a series of missteps under former CEO Don Thompson, who left the company last February.

All-day breakfast was just one of the measures Easterbrook implemented in a turnaround plan last year that involved making the menu simpler, improving service times and raising worker wages.

"I am particularly impressed with how quickly things are changing," Morningstar analyst R.J. Hottovy said.

"Once upon a time, under previous leadership, it seemed like McDonald's became a less nimble company where it took a really long time to roll out new products and innovations."

Sales at McDonald's U.S. restaurants open at least 13 months rose 5.7 percent in the quarter ended Dec. 31 - the best quarterly growth in nearly four years. Analysts polled by research firm Consensus Metrix had forecast growth of 2.7 percent on average. REUTERS

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Justices expand ban on mandatory life sentences for juvenile killers

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday expanded its ban on mandatory sentences of life in prison without parole for inmates convicted of murders committed before age 18, saying even those imprisoned years ago should have an opportunity to argue for their release.

The court, in a 6-3 ruling, sided with Louisiana inmate Henry Montgomery, who was convicted in the 1963 fatal shooting of a sheriff's deputy at age 17 and has spent more than a half century behind bars with an automatic sentence of life without possibility of parole.

The court in 2012 had ruled that mandatory life sentences without parole in homicide cases involving juvenile killers violated the U.S. Constitution's ban on cruel and unusual punishment. The justices, in their ruling on Monday, said that decision must be applied retroactively to inmates convicted before that ruling was issued.

A prisoner GETTY IMAGES

That means Montgomery and more than 1,000 people serving similar sentences around the United States could be resentenced or given the chance to apply for parole. It does not, however, guarantee their release.

Montgomery, who is black, was convicted of killing a white sheriff's deputy in East Baton Rouge at a time when racial tensions in the region were boiling over.

The ruling, with conservative Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Anthony Kennedy joining the court's four liberals, was the court's latest to protect juvenile offenders from the harshest sentences. In 2005, the Supreme Court banned capital punishment for those under 18 at the time of their crimes.

Monday's ruling, authored by Kennedy, left open the possibility of juveniles being sentenced to life without parole in certain cases. Kennedy said Montgomery himself showed "his evolution from a troubled, misguided youth to a model member of the prison community." REUTERS

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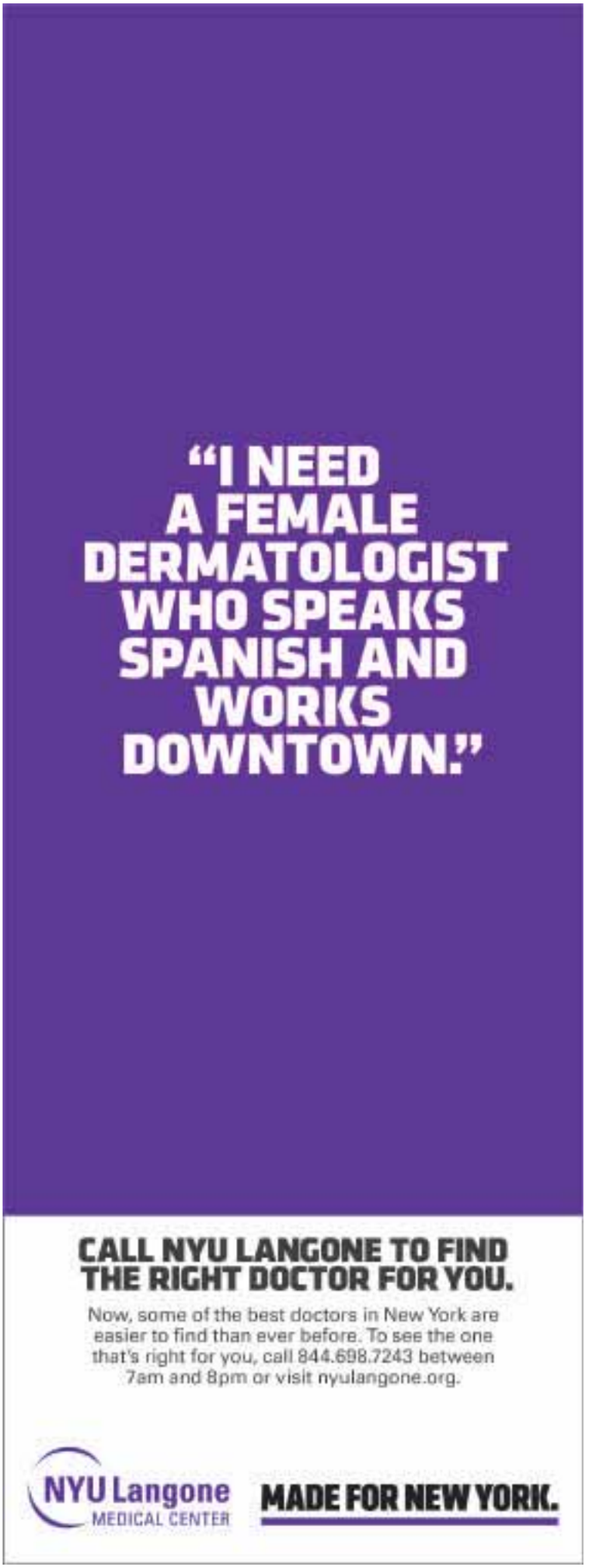
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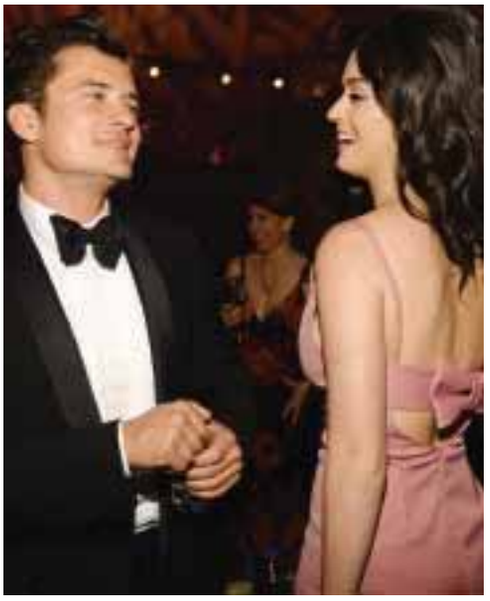
Gwen Stefani got a horse

Gwen Stefani seems serious enough about this whole relationship with Blake Shelton thing, especially if the latest addition to her life is any indication. But should we be worried that the SoCal punk fashionista is going a bit too country? Stefani took to Instagram to show off her new horse. Yes, a horse. Named Halo. She refers to the horse (in hashtag form) as the "best present ever," though she doesn't divulge who could have bestowed her with such a lavish gift. We can totally speculate, though, and my speculation is circling a name that rhymes with Shmake Frelton. She also posted a photo of the poor beast all decked out in country finery, with the unfortunate caption, "Look at my fancy fringe!" No, Ms. Stefani. Just … no. On the bright side, she can't be slipping too far into the country life if she gave her horse a name that immediately gets a Beyonce song stuck in your head, right?

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Katy Perry and Orlando Bloom? Sure!



Katy Perry and Orlando Bloom first prompted romance rumors at a couple of Golden Globes afterparties, where they were spotted getting awfully flirty with each other — even in front of photographers. Well, apparently they're looking to keep the speculation going, as Perry and Bloom have been spending even more time together. They even took in some theater in Los Angeles — I mean, who does that? — and showed up in a group selfie taken backstage at "The Absolute Brightness," posing alongside lead actor James Lecesne and two friends. Sounds like a pretty high-brow date. So, where's John Mayer in all of this, exactly? I can't remember if he and Perry were on-again or off-again. So tough to keep it straight. I guess they're off again, which means their 437th breakup must've stuck.

Patton Oswalt
Hey New Yorkers -- we're going through a "blizzard" here, too. A blizzard called...self doubt. (Music cue: Mazzy Star's "Blue Light")

Carrie Underwood
Welp, I guess I'm officially on tour! All packed up & in some hotel somewhere...just livin' the dream!

Kelly Osbourne
They always tell me "if your head was not screwed on then you'd forget it!" Packing for #Australia it's so hot & all I wear is black

Andie MacDowell is so out of touch

Stars: just like us. Except when using outdated, superposh expressions to complain about travel woes. On a recent flight, Andie MacDowell — she of "Groundhog Day," "Four Weddings and a Funeral" and oh so many L'Oreal ads — experienced some questionable customer service. "I paid for first class and they put me in tourist because of my dog that I pre-booked and paid for," she tweeted. Tourist class! Can you imagine?

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"THE OVERNIGHT"

Adam Scott and Taylor Schilling in "The Overnight." THE ORCHARD

A square couple (Taylor Schilling and Adam Scott) spends an evening with a swinging couple (Jason Schwartzman and Judith Godreche). You might think you know where this setup will end up: The bohemians will prove creepy and the yuppies will emerge even more assured about their lame lifestyle. But "The Overnight" keeps surprising you — keeps playing with our expectations about how far into the breach of alternative living our buttoned-up pair will go. Its semiconservative ending rankles, but the trip there is bumpier than it ever needed to be.

"GALAXY QUEST"

Alan Rickman, second from the left, is one of a band of old TV stars in space. PROVIDED

The late Alan Rickman was perhaps most thought of for his villainous roles, but he technically played only two — and Snape, as it turns out, technically wasn't one of them. (The others were in "Die Hard" and "Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves," of course.) You could watch him at least play hilariously prickly in the sci-fi comedy "Galaxy Quest," as a fine British thespian mostly known for an old role in a "Star Trek"-like sci-fi show, and particularly for his character's overwrought catchphrase (which begins, "By Grabthar's hammer..."). No doubt Rickman suffered through "Galaxy Quest" nerds pestering him with that line, but given how delightful the film is — which finds he and his old castmates aboard an actual space ship, doing battle with actual aliens — it might have been worth it.

"MEET THE PATELS"

Aziz Ansari's "Master of None" spent an entire episode lingering on the clash between immigrant parents and their American-born children, who often forget about their very different heritage. Turns out one Ravi Patel — who popped up on a later episode, concerning the limited work for Indian actors — made an entire documentary about that very issue. In "Meet the Patels," the heartsick 30-something Patel tries his to find love the old-fashioned way, which is to say the way his parents did back in their native country. What follows is very light and crowd-pleasing, but underneath lie copious insights about how first-generation born-Americans try to find a balance between often contradictory cultures.

Siblings Ravi and Geeta Patel co-directed "Meet the Patels." ALCHEMY

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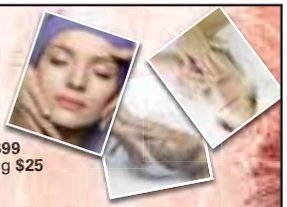

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Zoey Deutch comes into her own

The daughter of two Hollywood players is making her own way in "Dirty Grandpa."

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Zoey Deutch, left, parties with Jeffrey Bowyer-Chapman and Aubrey Plaza in "Dirty Grandpa." LIONSGATE

The day the Oscar nominations were announced, actress Zoey Deutch was starting rehearsals for the movie "Why Him?" One of her co-stars just happened to be Bryan Cranston, who received his first nomination for his turn in "Trumbo."

"I went to CVS, trying to find a 'Congratulations for your Oscar!' balloon," Deutch remembers. Those are, as you can imagine, sort of hard to find. "I got him a 'Happy birthday!' one instead. Maybe his wife and daughter picked up all the 'Congratulations on your Oscar!' balloons."

Being around big stars isn't new for the 21-year-old actress. In addition to films like "Beautiful Creatures," "Vampire Academy" and the new "Dirty Grandpa," she's the daughter of Lea Thompson — she of "Back to the Future," "All the Right Moves," "Red Dawn" and more — and director Howard Deutch. Her dad directed two of the seminal '80s teen movies, "Pretty in Pink" and "Some Kind of Wonderful."

Deutch says she didn't have some extravagant, atypical upbringing. "I had a very normal childhood," she tells us. "I mean, nobody's childhood is normal. But normal for me." She says, when she was growing up, few at school knew she came from such pedigree.

Deutch has been lighting out on her own, not explicitly falling back on her parents' names. In the spring, she'll be seen as part of the young ensemble cast in Richard Linklater's "Everybody Wants Some," a spiritual sequel to "Dazed and Confused." She did, however, recently act in "The Year of Spectacular Men," directed by her mom, as well as written and co-starring her sister, Madelyn.

"It was an amazing experience to get to collaborate on something so close to our hearts," she says. "To get to learn a new element of your relationship was fascinating."

In the meantime, there's "Dirty Grandpa," in which she plays the nice girl who's able to woo Zac Efron's uptight 20-something — on a road trip to Daytona Beach with his crazy gramps (Robert De Niro) — away from a life he may not like. She says she largely did it to work with director Dan Mazer, known for his longtime work with Sacha Baron Cohen (and who has many brightly colored sweaters, she likes to point out).

"It's a hilarious, equal opportunity offensive film," she explains. "No one is safe."

When asked what kind of movies she'd most like to do, she instantly stumps for a Western. "I grew up with horses, but I'm a terrible horseback rider," Deutch says. "Maybe I just want to fulfill my lifelong fantasy of being a good horseback rider, because my sister was, and I want to beat her."

GETTY IMAGES

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Adventure dating takes swiping right to a whole new level

"No Baggage" author Clara Bensen went on what Salon.com dubbed "the craziest OKCupid date ever" and it totally worked out. Here's how going big on your next date can work for you, too.

EMILY LAURENCE
@EmLaurence
emily.laurence@metro.us

Six weeks after meeting on OKCupid, Clara Bensen and Jeff Wilson did something a little crazy: They decided to travel to eight countries in three weeks together — with absolutely no luggage. Bensen boarded the plane with the clothes she was wearing, a comb, toothbrush, credit card and passport, and that's it. For 21 days.

Bensen, who chronicles their journey in her book "No Baggage," is part of the new adventure dating trend, doing something daring with someone you just met. In Aziz Ansari's Netflix series "Masters of None," Ansari's character, Dev, takes crush Rachel (Noel Wells) to Nashville for their first date. Going on an adventure date isn't only a good story, it creates a deep bond much faster than you would just going out for dinner and drinks. But there are some things to know before you give it a try. Here, Bensen gives her best tips.

Trust your gut

"Generally speaking, I don't [recommend] meeting a stranger and then taking off for some crazy adventure a few weeks later. For me, it was totally a gut intuition. The moment I met Jeff, I knew something was going to happen between us. We had a really strong connection and I trusted him pretty quickly. But I doubt that I would have had that same feeling for many other guys I could have met online."

Be spontaneous

"Introducing a little chaos and uncertainty is a good way to either bond or find out you don't want to bond. You can seek out exploration and adventure wherever you are. Jeff and I are adventurous in our dates at home in Austin, too. We'll just walk out the door and explore a new neighborhood."

Heading to Europe for the next date? Cheers to that. ISTOCK

Make sure your personalities mesh

"If you're planning something big, make sure you have the same expectations. Some people are really organized and like everything planned out in advance. Other people are spontaneous and like to play things by ear. If your personalities are too mismatched, it can be a nightmare."

Be prepared to get real open, real fast

"When you travel with someone, it's like getting to know them in fast-forward. In the middle of my trip with Jeff, I got my period and since we were traveling light, I only had two tampons with me. Jeff went out early on the streets in Sarajevo and went to all these places to find pads for me. It was actually a very sweet gesture."

This week's three buzziest book events

After being forced inside all weekend it's time to get back out there. Here's what to add to your calendar:

Betancourt will be at McNally Jackson tomorrow. GETTY IMAGES

Ingrid Betancourt and Diane Von Furstenberg

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Nothing going on here, just a casual conversation between a Colombian presidential candidate and a world-famous fashion designer. Ingrid Betancourt and Diane Von Furstenberg are longtime friends and will be talking about Betancourt's book, "The Blue Line." It will also be livestreamed on McNallyJackson.com.

Shelf Obsessed: Strand's Ultimate Literary Trivia Night

Jan. 27, 7 p.m.
Strand Books
828 Broadway, 212-473-1452
Standbooks.com
Meet other literary lovers at The Strand's book trivia tonight. Random facts about famous authors, nonfiction, fiction and even pop-culture books are all fair game to be asked. To play, you must buy a $10 gift card.

Book release with Anthony Schneider for "Repercussions"

Jan. 29, 7 p.m.
BookCourt
163 Court St., Brooklyn,
718-875-3677
Bookcourt.com
This is New Yorker by way of South Africa writer Anthony Schneider's first novel, but early reviews are in and the news is good. "Repercussions" is about an activist who heads to South Africa to make a documentary about the country's liberation, but while there, he discovers some unsettling family secrets. EMILY LAURENCE

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Get the body of an 'Angel'

The Ballet Beautiful workout stretches the Victoria's Secret models to their runway limits. Mary Helen Bowers, the founder of the technique, tells us why the ballet burn makes for the best fitness hit.

ELODIE NOEL
Metro World News
letters@metro.us

Victoria's Secret models might be born beautiful, but that doesn't mean that they don't have to hone and tone their bodies. Getting the girls runway-ready falls to Mary Helen Bowers, the former ballerina who trained Natalie Portman for her role in "Black Swan." After 10 years at the New York City Ballet, the 35-year-old Bowers now works from a studio in the city, where she puts models like Alessandra Ambrosio, Lily Aldridge and newbie Gigi Hadid through their plies, with her custom-made Ballet Beautiful method.

Why is ballet a good workout?
The principle of Ballet Beautiful is infusing classical ballet training with fitness. It's a program that is low impact, strengthens the body and tones the muscles. It elongates the muscles, improves posture and keeps you fit and agile. Ultimately, it just gives you a beautiful body shape.

A peek at Bowers' Ballet Beautiful class. YELENA YEMCHUK

Why do models love it so much?
The workout is very portable, and when I was originally creating it for myself, I was thinking of a program I could do backstage when I was touring with the company around the world. It's a workout you can do literally anytime, anywhere, and you don't need a lot of equipment. You are sculpting, toning and doing cardio work, but that doesn't require a great amount of space.

Why does it appeal to Victoria's Secret models?
I guess one of the reasons why is because the workout is so targeted and effective. The Victoria's Secret Angels are training so hard — they work out like athletes to prepare for that show. They really aren't cutting any corners — they are eating well, working out and doing anything to get the ultimate strong and sexy physique.

Who are your best students?
They are all incredible athletes in their own way, but Candice Swanepoel and Lindsay Ellingson did dance when they were younger, so they understand the method in a way that maybe somebody who doesn't have that much dance experience wouldn't. It's fun for me as their trainer, but it's certainly not necessary. Karlie Kloss danced quite seriously until her teenage years, and it's fun sometimes to train with women who have a more serious background.

How long does it take before people doing Ballet Beautiful see results?
Most people start seeing results in about two to three weeks — if they do the exercises three hours a week. It's really motivating. You see the change, and you are inspired to do more. Some take their workout to five hours a week or up to two hours a day — that's the level that the Angels do on the run-up to the show. During the year, the models are on a lighter schedule, but they maintain and keep in shape so we would do three hours a week.

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This publication was supported by grant number X07HA00025 from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). This grant is funded through Title II of the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act of 1990, as amended by Part B of The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009. Its contents are solely the responsibility of Health Research, Inc. and do not necessarily represent the official view of the funders.

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What the latest fertility advancements mean for you

"The [advancements in health] are going to grow and keep growing," says Dr. David B. Agus, author of "The Lucky Years." ISTOCK

Startling developments in medical technologies are allowing women to prolong fertility and give birth to healthier babies.

EMILY LAURENCE
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emily.laurence@metro.us

Women searching for ways to slow down their biological clocks is nothing new, and Dr. David Agus, author of the book "The Lucky Years: How to Thrive in the Brave New World of Health" has some encouraging news: there are more options to women prolonging fertility than ever.

A new era for fertility

"The interesting thing about fertility is that the eggs are there, they just aren't functioning well as [women] get older," Agus says. But scientists have more information than ever, leading to new ways to get give birth to healthier babies.

Agus says what started as research to help women with mitochondria disorder — classically unable to get pregnant — pass on their DNA using a surrogate has expanded to allowing women too old to conceive naturally do the same thing.

New data is also giving doctors the knowledge they need to prevent diseases. "A group of scientists [recently] showed that they can develop a new enzyme by changing one letter of the 3 billion DNA code. It allows you to potentially correct diseases," he says. "So if you have the mutant breast cancer gene, we can potentially correct it so your children don't have that issue."

Raising big questions

Of course this also raises ethical questions. "How far do we take it? Do we use it to correct some disorders and not others? Can we use it to make people taller, shorter or stronger? We need leadership here and it's not clear whose job it is to be that leader," Agus says.

He says creating a discourse about fertility and technology is important so we become closer to having that leadership. Otherwise, it slows down developments that could potentially stop diseases from being passed on biologically.

"We have to create that movement going forward," Agus says. Then the [advancements in health] is going to grow."

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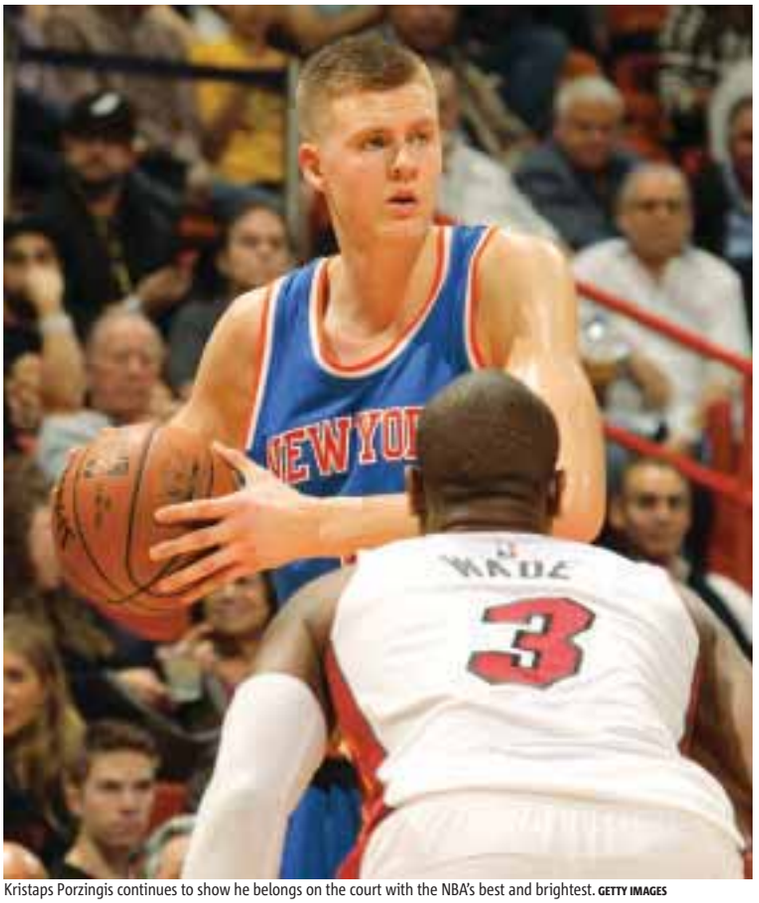

Kristaps Porzingis continues to show he belongs on the court with the NBA's best and brightest. GETTY IMAGES

Porzingis can't wait to face OKC's Durant

The Knicks rookie superstar will face the former NBA MVP for the first time Tuesday.

TONY WILLIAMS
@TBone8
sports@metro.us

Knicks rookie sensation Kristaps Porzingis has been compared to a handful of future Hall of Famers, from Dirk Nowitzki to Pau Gasol. But for the budding star, he said the one guy he likens himself to the most is the star of New York's upcoming opponent.

Kevin Durant, the Oklahoma City Thunder's franchise player, is the one guy that Porzingis said he identifies with the most, and is looking forward to facing the All-Star forward for the first time, Tuesday night at the Garden.

The Knicks (22-24) are on a two-game losing streak, and it won't get any easier when the Thunder (33-13) roll into town in a foul mood — especially since they're coming off a 116-106 loss at the Brooklyn Nets on Sunday in a game that was pushed back three hours due to the massive blizzard that struck New York City over the weekend.

The Thunder didn't get a chance to hold a practice, shootaround, or walk-through prior to the contest, which means the Knicks are going to get a feisty and pent-up opponent. Tuesday's task becomes even more difficult considering the Knicks earned a 93-90 upset win at Oklahoma City on Nov. 20.

In that game, Porzingis was still learning the ropes and played sparingly when he notched seven points, six rebounds, and a block in just 26 minutes of action. But Porzingis is now the second-best player on the Knicks (averaging 14 points, 7.8 rebounds, and two blocks) and has seen his confidence grow with each game. He's a different player now.

It should be noted that Durant didn't play in that game, meaning the juicy storyline is set to finally see these two go head to head. Durant, an All-Star starter who's averaging 26.6 points and 7.7 rebounds per game and shooting 51 percent from the field, will likely be matched up with the Latvian sensation on more than a few occasions.

And when that matchup happens, one thing's for sure, Porzingis won't be starstruck. Clippers head coach Doc Rivers can attest to the rookie's focus and mettle, as he touted Porzingis following Fridays 116-88 dismantling of the Knicks at the Garden.

> 30
> CARMELO ANTHONY RECENTLY PASSED GARY PAYTON FOR 30TH PLACE ON THE ALL-TIME SCORING LIST.

"He's going to be great. He's a skilled player. When you have skill at that early of an age and size and that IQ … he's a special player," Rivers said, noting the toughness. "I think what everyone underestimated with him is he's a tough kid. He has toughness. That's not fake. It's just who he is. … If people would have seen that [prior to the draft] he probably would have gone a lot higher."

Porzingis began honing his special skills by watching countless hours of tape on Durant. Those highlights, Porzingis noted, is where he picked up the nuances on how to succeed as a scorer with a slight frame, because at 7-foot-3 and 240 pounds, the rookie knew once he got to the NBA, he'd need to learn how to create space for himself and avoid getting banged around by larger defenders.

"It's the way he draws fouls, how he drives to the basket, and how aggressive he is offensively — there's a lot to learn from a guy like him," Porzingis said when asked about the comparisons.

Judging by their per-36 numbers, the two aren't separated by much. Porzingis gets more rebounds (10.2 to 7.9) and blocks (2.5 to 1.2), while Durant attempts more field goals (18.1 to 15.3). Durant also shoots a higher percentage at the foul line (89.6 percent to 85.4), but the splits are striking.

Porzingis took it in stride when notified of the statistical comparison, and added that he knows his limitations in the paint. But at the same time, his tone then turned competitive and reiterated that he "won't be intimidated by anyone" and is looking forward to battling the Thunder's impressive frontcourt — one that not only includes Durant (6-foot-10), but physical bigs like Serge Ibaka (6-foot-10), Steven Adams (7-feet), and Enes Kanter (6-foot-11).

For Porzingis, every day is jersey day

Kristaps Porzingis is not on the same level as Durant just yet, on the floor, but at least he has bragging rights in marketing. The top 10 most popular NBA jersey sales (from Oct. to Dec. 2015) features Porzingis at fourth — behind Steph Curry, LeBron James, and Kobe Bryant, but ahead of Durant, Derrick Rose, Russell Westbrook, Kyrie Irving, James Harden, and Jimmy Butler.

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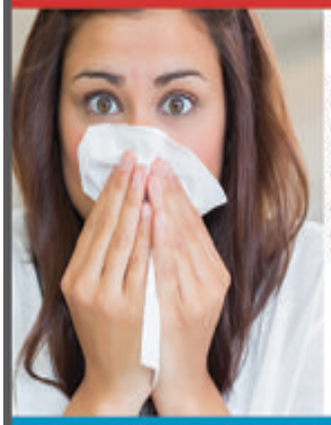

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- Family Argument
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- Worried about loved one
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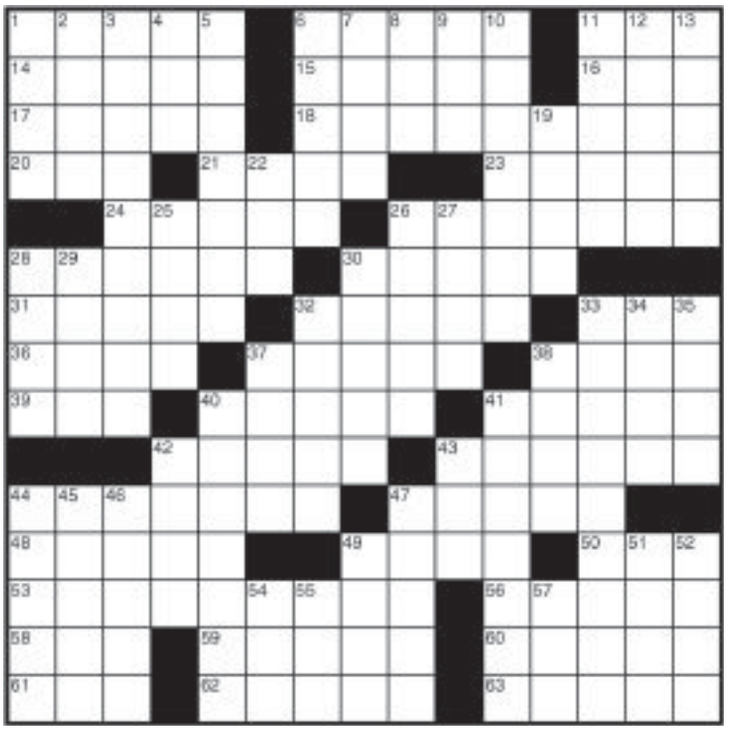

Across

1 It has a crust
6 Propeller-head
11 Recess game
14 The ones here
15 Gung-ho
16 Estuary
17 Narrow down
18 Resumed the hike (2 wds.)
20 "Honest" prez
21 Lesage hero Gil —
23 Cheyenne abode
24 Following
26 Fell softly
28 Counted on
30 Gets heavier
31 Noted soap vixen
32 Fall colors
33 Can. neighbor
36 Mongkut's nanny
37 Deadly mosquito
38 Volt or watt
39 Golf gadget
40 Snow shelter
41 Process ore
42 NASA rig (hyph.)
43 With complete attention
44 Attributed
47 Cattail site
48 Scroll in an ark
49 Alligator on a shirt
50 Unlucky gambler's note
53 Went silent (2 wds.)
56 Bottle tops
58 Make bales
59 Cousin's dad
60 Watch innards
61 Cen. fractions
62 Growing mediums
63 Cheap heat

Down

1 Jazz's — James
2 Obsessed whaler
3 Backpedaling
4 Mao — -tung
5 Chamomile infusion (2 wds.)
6 Blackball
7 "Star —"
8 Narcissus' flaw
9 Comic scream
10 Norman's neighbors
11 "The Sound of Music" name
12 Film's Anouk —
13 Yawned
19 Mushrooms
22 Took in tow
25 Pay-stub abbr.
26 Old, in combos
27 Jar tops
28 Enjoy, as benefits
29 Urn homophone
30 Beckett's "Waiting for —"
32 Nearly frozen
33 Crooked
34 Housecat's perch
35 LL.D. holder
37 The chills
38 Ballpark figures
40 Continent connector
41 What Lamour wore
42 Magellan discovery
43 Dust cloth
44 Like dandruff
45 Grinding tooth
46 Implores
47 Has the blues
49 Breathing spell
51 Creole veggie
52 Soyuz launcher
54 Brian of Roxy Music
55 601, to Caesar
57 Want-ad abbr.

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easy

1					4		8	
2				5			7	1
		5			6	9		
5	9	7						
	8		1		3		5	
						4	2	9
		4	8			1		
7	5			2				4
	1		7					2

hard

	2	5			9	6		
9	4		8		1		3	
6								
		2	1					
1	5		3		6		7	9
					4	5		
								6
	1		5		2		9	3
		9	6			8	2	

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Aries Be prepared to give your all and stand behind your beliefs and actions. Your confidence and a sympathetic and humble attitude will bring good results.

Taurus Share your ideas, and team up with people you know can help you reach your goals. Put your heart on the line and let that special someone know you care.

Gemini Demands will be put on you if you haven't lived up to your promises. Make personal changes that will help alleviate some of the turmoil or discord in your life.

Cancer Don't be afraid to do things differently. It's your uniqueness that will bring people to your side. Show your true feelings, and make a romantic gesture that will enhance your life.

Leo Your serious attitude will help you reach your goals. The changes you bring about will encourage you to turn your back on anyone who is negative or combative.

Virgo Don't hold back when you should express your thoughts and feelings. Include the people you admire the most in whatever you plan to do. A financial gain is present.

Libra Don't let anyone rain on your parade. Get out with friends who appreciate you and focus on ways you can free yourself from unwanted criticism and responsibility.

Scorpio You'll make a lasting impression if you show off your talent, skills and intelligence. One of your ideas will garner attention from an influential party and lead to an interesting proposal.

Sagittarius Don't rush to accept a deal that sounds too good to be true. Too much of anything will lead to your demise. Stick to simple pleasures.

Capricorn Your finesse, intelligence and persuasive charm will ensure that you get what you want. A relationship with someone special will grow stronger if you make romantic plans.

Aquarius It's time to clean house. Donate what you don't need. Back away from people who are holding you back, and focus on what and who is really important to you.

Pisces Emotional matters will make you think about past losses. Your intuition will help prevent you from making the same mistake twice. Romance will improve your life. **EUGENIA LAST**

Yesterday's answers

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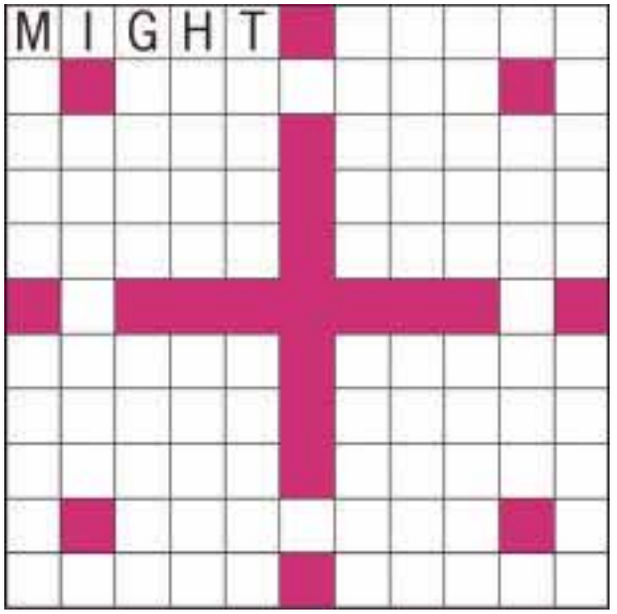
fill-ins

Place all the words listed into the grid. Each word can be used once only. The first word has been filled in.



5 Letters

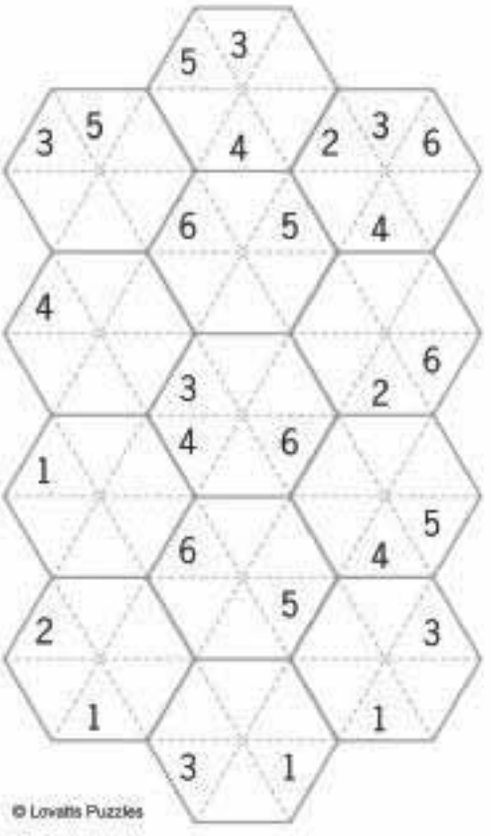
Adapt
Amass
Aster
Azure
Dwell
Eater
Entry
Erupt
Gassy
Grave
Great
Halve
Lemon
Meant
Memos
Midge
Might
Muted
Noise
Opera
Ozone
Panes
Poser
Reeks
Ropes
Seems
Slang
Spare
Stray
Suite
Tiler
Today

7 Letters

Erasers
Raiders
Serpent
Wrapped

hexoku

Fit the numbers 1 to 6 into each hexagon so that where the hexagons touch, the numbers are the same. No number is repeated in any hexagon.



President Obama delivers his final State of the Union

In a sweeping rhetorical indictment of anti-science philosophy, like climate change denial, President Barack Obama avoided a flurry of policy proposals in favor of big ideas at his final State of the Union speech.

Alabama chief justice: No gay marriage in my state

Judges who follow his order risk being held in contempt of court for violating the federal ruling.

Texas 'affluenza' teen taken into custody in Mexico

Ethan Couch became known as the "affluenza" teen during his trial in juvenile court, when a psychologist said he was so wealthy and spoiled he could not tell the difference between right and wrong.

Militiamen occupy wildlife refuge as dispute flares

The armed occupation is part of a decades-old conflict between ranchers and the federal government.

North Korea claims first successful H-bomb test

The news set off alarm bells in Japan and South Korea.

'Trumponomics' could cause a recession: Economists

A new report from Politico has experts explaining the Donald's fiscal plan.

Legendary rock musician David Bowie dies at age 69

A light has gone out in the world.

Wrong contestant crowned Miss Universe by host

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